United Nations A/57/630–S/2002/1302

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
27 November 2002
English
Original: Spanish

General Assembly
Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 160
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 20 November 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith information on the events surrounding the hijacking of a Cuban aircraft on 11 November 2002 and the decision by the United States Government to release the hijackers, in flagrant violation of its obligations under bilateral agreements and international treaties (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 160, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bruno **Rodriguez Parrilla**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 20 November 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On 11 November 2002, a Cuban AN-2 aircraft, registration No. CUC-1086, was hijacked. The plane, used for aerial spraying, was on an authorized flight from the airfield at Los Palacios to the airport of the city of Pinar del Rio.

The plane landed at the Pinar del Rio airport, where it illegally picked up a group of persons, including a minor, and flew to Cayo Hueso in Florida.

On the afternoon of 12 November, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba delivered to the United States Interests Section in Havana a diplomatic note expressing its most vigorous condemnation of this outrageous act of air piracy. In addition to denouncing the hijacking, the note requested the United States authorities to return the hijackers, the other illegal immigrants involved in the incident and the hijacked aircraft, which is the property of the Republic of Cuba, to Cuba immediately and to hand over any information available to the United States authorities on this incident as soon as possible.

Actions such as this one, which not only endangered the life of the persons travelling in the hijacked aircraft and the persons responsible for the hijacking but also endangered a minor, can only be carried out by unscrupulous persons who violate the most elementary norms of international air traffic safety, as well as Cuban and United States laws criminalizing aircraft hijacking as a terrorist act.

Aircraft hijacking is typified clearly as a terrorist crime in the Convention for the Suppression of the Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft of 1970, to which the United States and Cuba are parties.

It is no coincidence that the hijacking took place only days after the United States President, George W. Bush, speaking at a press conference in Washington, defended the existence of "special" immigration laws for Cubans, unlike those for illegal immigrants from other countries who, without exception, are violently expelled by the United States authorities.

Repeating the worn-out rhetoric of the past 43 years, President Bush reiterated the spurious claim that the Cuban Government prosecutes illegal emigrants returned by the Coastguard Service to justify accepting as many illegal emigrants from Cuba as possible, 90 per cent of whom arrive in the United States as a result of immigrant trafficking by pirate boats from that country.

The fact that the United States President himself defends such a criminal piece of legislation as the Cuban Adjustment Act is a powerful incentive to the commission of such serious acts as aircraft hijacking.

It is inconceivable that the United States Government should be practising a policy that encourages air piracy and aircraft hijacking, with their tragic consequences, at a time when huge efforts are being made to safeguard the national security of the United States and to protect its borders and air travel.

To explain this irrational attitude towards Cuba, we should perhaps recall that the direct authors of such grave terrorist acts as the blowing up of a Cubana airlines plane in mid-flight with 73 people on board in 1976, as well as those responsible for

other terrorist acts against Cuba, are living in Miami right now, at the height of the war on terrorism.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba, in its note of 12 November, reminded the United States Government that in the immigration agreements signed between the two countries in September 1994, the two sides explicitly reaffirmed their common interest in preventing hazardous departures from Cuba that threaten human lives, while the United States pledged to discontinue the practice of granting provisional admission to Cuban migrants arriving on United States territory by irregular channels and to take effective measures to combat and prevent the use of violence by anyone attempting to reach, or having reached, the United States from Cuba through the forcible diversion of aircraft and vessels.

In the same note, Cuba reiterated its determination to continue to abide by the aforesaid immigration agreements, as it has done up to now, and requested the United States Government to stop applying the murderous, terrorist Cuban Adjustment Act and, in strict compliance with the immigration agreements signed between the two countries, to return the hijackers, the other illegal emigrants and the hijacked aircraft immediately.

Despite Cuba's justified request, the United States authorities brazenly and cynically released the hijacker of a Cuban plane and the seven people who travelled with him, some of whom had been held at the Krome detention centre in southern Florida since Monday, 15 November.

This latest demonstration of the permissive attitude of the United States authorities towards the perpetrators of illegal acts such as air piracy, which only serve to encourage the political lobbying and terrorist acts of the anti-Cuban mafia and the far right, represents a further escalation of the attacks and gross lies orchestrated by the United States Government against our country in recent weeks.

While the more than 200 Haitians who staged a desperate bid to land off the Florida coast a few weeks ago are rejected and sent back to their country, while hundreds of Mexicans die each year in the attempt to steal across the heavily patrolled border separating them from their neighbour to the north, and while the United States Government cracks down on Arabs and Muslims living in its territory, the United States authorities' acceptance of these hijackers and of other illegal Cuban emigrants arriving in the country as a result of human trafficking by pirate boats from Florida is a disgrace and a clear illustration of the double standard and irrational policy adopted by the United States Government.

This latest crime by the United States Government is simply a desperate, senseless reaction to the opposition shown by a majority of United States public opinion to its actions against Cuba and the growing international isolation of its anti-Cuban policy, as demonstrated by the General Assembly's overwhelming adoption a few days ago, by 173 votes in favour, of its eleventh consecutive resolution condemning the United States economic, financial and commercial embargo against Cuba.

Responsibility for the fact that crimes such as this hijacking are committed rests entirely with the United States Government, which maintains in force and systematically applies the murderous Cuban Adjustment Act and with its privileged, exceptional treatment of illegal Cuban emigrants encourages such emigration for propaganda purposes.

Cuba once again denounces the United States Government's lack of political will to negotiate with Cuba agreements that, as repeatedly proposed by our country, would make it possible to combat terrorism and illegal immigration.

In a protest attended by over 100,000 people in Havana on 18 November, the Cuban people demonstrated their unequivocal condemnation of this latest action against Cuba and their firm opposition to all terrorist acts, air piracy, the Cuban Adjustment Act and the embargo against Cuba.

New York, 20 November 2002

United Nations S/2002/1303

Security Council

Distr.: General
27 November 2002

Original: English

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the Security Council the eleventh quarterly report of the Executive Chairman of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission, which is submitted in accordance with paragraph 12 of Security Council resolution 1284 (1999) of 17 December 1999 (see annex).

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Annex

Eleventh quarterly report of the Executive Chairman of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission in accordance with paragraph 12 of Security Council resolution 1284 (1999)

Introduction

1. The present report, which is the eleventh[a] submitted in accordance with paragraph 12 of Security Council resolution 1284 (1999), covers the activities of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) during the period from 1 September to 30 November 2002.

2. The period under review has been one of intense activity in preparation for the resumption of inspections and monitoring in Iraq following Iraq's statement on 16 September (S/2002/1034, annex) that inspectors could return to Iraq without conditions, the subsequent unanimous adoption, on 8 November, of Security Council resolution 1441 (2002), which provides for a strengthened inspection regime, and Iraq's confirmation on 13 November that it would implement the resolution (S/2002/1242, annex).

Briefings and consultations by the Executive Chairman

3. In the period under review, the Executive Chairman of UNMOVIC has continued to provide monthly briefings to the President of the Security Council. He has also kept the Secretary-General and his senior staff informed of the activities of the Commission. Members of the Council sought his comments on the draft resolution on Iraq, which was adopted on 8 November. In Vienna, on 30 September and 1 October, he chaired, with the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), discussions with Iraqi counterparts on practical arrangements for the resumption of inspections, and he reported to the Council thereafter. He travelled to Baghdad from 18 to 20 November with the Director General of IAEA for talks with representatives of the Government of Iraq about the resumption of inspections, following the adoption of resolution 1441 (2002). In addition, in the period under review he had talks at the level of government in Würzburg, Germany, Washington, D.C., Moscow, Paris, Nicosia and London. In Paris, he also met with the Foreign Minister of Mexico. In New York, he also provided briefings to visiting ministers, parliamentarians and government officials and gave interviews to the media.

Developments

4. The issue of Iraq was one of the main themes of the general debate at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, which opened in September. In a letter dated 16 September addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2002/1034, annex), the Foreign Minister of Iraq stated that his Government had decided to allow the return of the United Nations weapons inspectors without conditions and that the Iraqi side

was ready to discuss the practical arrangements necessary for the resumption of inspections.

5. Following this declaration, the Executive Chairman and the Director General of IAEA met with an Iraqi team headed by General Amer Al-Sa'adi in Vienna on 30 September and 1 October and examined the practical arrangements required for the resumption of inspections in accordance with the governing Security Council resolutions. At the conclusion of the talks, the Iraqi side provided UNMOVIC and IAEA with the backlog of semi-annual declarations of Iraq's holdings of dual-use equipment and related materials required of it under the terms of Security Council resolution 715 (1991). Directly thereafter, the Executive Chairman and the Director General reported to the Security Council on the outcome of the talks and the considerable area of understandings reached. On 8 October, a joint letter from the Executive Chairman and the Director General was addressed to General Amer Al-Sa'adi, listing the conclusions they had drawn from the Vienna talks and seeking Iraqi confirmation thereof. While Iraq's responses of 10 and 12 October, taken together, did confirm the desired understanding of the majority of practical arrangements, some points were not covered.

6. The Executive Chairman briefed the members of the Security Council on the replies received from Iraq. Subsequently, the terms of the joint UNMOVIC/IAEA letter of 8 October (resolution 1441 (2002), annex) were endorsed by the Security Council and made binding on Iraq through the unanimous adoption of resolution 1441 (2002). That resolution provided a strengthened inspection regime by conferring revised and additional authorities to United Nations weapons inspectors. It also set out time lines for the resumption of inspections in Iraq and the requirement that Iraq make, within 30 days of the date of the resolution, a currently accurate, full and complete declaration of all aspects of its programmes for weapons of mass destruction and the means for their delivery, as well as of programmes claimed to be for non-weapon purposes in the chemical, biological and nuclear fields. It directed that inspections be resumed in Iraq not later than 45 days following the adoption of the resolution and that UNMOVIC update the Council 60 days thereafter. UNMOVIC will also promptly report to the Council if at any time Iraq fails to comply with its obligations.

7. Resolution 1441 (2002) included a demand that Iraq confirm within seven days its intention to comply fully with the resolution. On 13 November, the Foreign Minister of Iraq wrote to the Secretary-General (S/2002/1242, annex) that Iraq would deal with the resolution and welcomed the return of United Nations inspectors.

8. On 17 November, the Executive Chairman and the Director General travelled to Larnaca, Cyprus, the site of the new UNMOVIC/IAEA field office, established under an agreement of 30 October 2002 with the Government of Cyprus. The Cyprus field office will serve as the main logistical support base for inspections in Iraq. It is expected that the field office in Bahrain will be able to be retained as a back-up.

9. On 18 November, the Executive Chairman and the Director General arrived in Baghdad, heading an advance team of about 30 persons from UNMOVIC and IAEA. Discussions were held with senior officials of Iraq on the practical implementation of inspections, in particular resolution 1441 (2002). In parallel, technical and logistical personnel examined the former premises of UNSCOM and IAEA at the

Canal Hotel in Baghdad (henceforth to be known as the Baghdad Ongoing Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Centre (BOMVIC)), and began to restore it to become an effective and secure operational centre for inspection activities in Iraq.

10. In the course of the discussions with senior Iraqi officials on 18 and 19 November, the Executive Chairman and the Director General emphasized the vital importance of the declaration to be submitted by Iraq before 8 December to the two organizations and to the Security Council. They discussed the time lines prescribed by Council resolutions 1284 (1999) and 1441 (2002) and several practical arrangements beyond those examined in Vienna, regarding, for example, the expansion of BOMVIC and the establishment of a field office in Mosul, Iraq.

11. In addition, the Executive Chairman gave the Iraqi delegation a note with questions and comments prepared by UNMOVIC as part of the analysis undertaken of the backlog of semi-annual declarations, which the Iraqi side had handed over in Vienna on 1 October. The Iraqi side promised that it would provide the requested supplementary information and corrections.

12. On 25 November, the Executive Chairman briefed members of the Security Council on the visit to Baghdad.

13. The first team of UNMOVIC inspectors arrived in Iraq on 25 November. This team comprised 11 experts from the Commission's Headquarters in New York covering the three areas (biological, chemical and missile) for which UNMOVIC is responsible. The first inspection is scheduled for 27 November, well in advance of the 45-day time limit set out in resolution 1441 (2002) for the resumption of inspections. This first team will be followed by additional groups of inspectors drawn from the Commission's roster of trained experts. The Commission expects to have around 100 inspectors plus support staff in Iraq by the end of December.

14. On 23 November, the Foreign Minister of Iraq addressed a letter to the Secretary-General setting out the observations of the Government of Iraq on resolution 1441 (2002).

Staffing

15. As at the end of November 2002, UNMOVIC core staff in the Professional grades at Headquarters comprised 73 persons of 29 nationalities, of which 10 were women. After the recent training course in Vienna, there were 267 experts, including inspectors and support staff, on the Commission's roster.

Training

16. As part of its efforts to increase readiness, UNMOVIC has continued to attach high priority to the training of staff and potential staff.

17. UNMOVIC conducted its sixth basic training course in Vienna from 7 October to 8 November with specialized training in Austria, Germany and Sweden for 54 selected experts, including some new staff from Headquarters. A seventh basic training course is planned to start in January 2003.

18. From 2 to 13 September, with the support of the Government of China, UNMOVIC conducted the third advanced chemical course in Beijing for 15 experts from its roster to further develop practical inspection skills.

19. An enhanced chemical training course was held in New York, from 18 to 22 November, for experts from the roster and from Headquarters on the inspection and monitoring of dual-use chemical items and capabilities in Iraq.

20. The Commission is grateful to those Member States that have supported the training activities.

Other activities

21. Work has continued on the compilation of clusters of unresolved disarmament issues, which is a step in the process of identifying the key remaining disarmament tasks to be completed by Iraq. The clusters will also serve as part of the reference basis in the analysis that will be undertaken of the declaration to be submitted by Iraq under resolution 1441 (2002). The draft handbook for inspectors is being revised to take account of the new authority given to the Commission in the conduct of inspections by resolution 1441 (2002). The backlog of semi-annual declarations provided by Iraq has been provisionally analysed by the Commission's experts. It is expected to prompt some inspections at sites in Iraq.

22. Logistical and other preparatory work in the area of inspection planning has been intensified. Considerable amounts of equipment, including computers, cameras and sensors, have been procured and are being transported to BOMVIC in Baghdad.

Non-inspection sources of information

23. The Senior Officer for Outside Information has continued to liaise with representatives from Member States. As noted in paragraph 10 of Security Council resolution 1441 (2002), all Member States are requested to provide to UNMOVIC and IAEA any information related to prohibited programmes or other aspects of their mandates.

24. UNMOVIC has now received the results of a contract with the International French Research Institute for the review of open-source data relevant to the mandate of UNMOVIC, with particular emphasis on European, Mediterranean and Middle Eastern sources. That data is being analysed together with data from other unclassified sources, such as that collected by the Monterey Institute of International Studies on behalf of UNMOVIC. The data helps to shed further light on the reconstruction of infrastructure that was formerly used by Iraq in prohibited programmes. UNMOVIC has also received a completed set of "topic trees", which are used in computer searches for relevant open-source material.

25. Database development and the integration of data derived from Iraq's declarations, inspection reports and other sources have progressed significantly. UNMOVIC continues to receive commercial satellite imagery, which is being used to prepare for the inspections in Iraq. UNMOVIC is also exploring the possibility of acquiring data sets (such as mapping) that are derived from imagery. With the prevalence of digital sets of data, it has become increasingly easy to merge different types of data within the central database.

Export/import

26. As required under the provisions of Security Council resolution 1409 (2002), experts from UNMOVIC and IAEA have reviewed all contracts under the oil-for-food programme that were on hold at the time of the adoption of the resolution. This amounted to some 2,000 contracts, in addition to those reviewed on a daily basis. All contracts are reviewed to identify any items that are contained on the goods review list, approved by the Council in resolution 1409 (2002). That resolution also approved new procedures for the processing of oil-for-food contracts, which have been implemented. Detailed information on the implementation of the new system is contained in the report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraphs 7 and 8 of Security Council resolution 1409 (S/2002/1239), dated 12 November 2002, and the accompanying note by the Office of the Iraq Programme (see http://www.un.org/Depts/oip).

College of Commissioners

27. On 17 October, following the resignation of Paul Schulte, the Secretary-General, in consultation with the members of the Security Council and the Executive Chairman, appointed Bryan Wells (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) as a member of the College of Commissioners. Marjatta Rautio (Finland) has also resigned. No successor has yet been appointed.

28. A special session of the College of Commissioners was held at United Nations Headquarters on 18 October. The Executive Chairman gave the Commissioners a report on the work of UNMOVIC since the last session of the College was held, in August 2002, and on the discussions held in Vienna in late September/early October, as well as on recent developments with respect to the Security Council's deliberations on Iraq.

29. The College held its eleventh regular plenary session at United Nations Headquarters on 26 November. In addition to the members of the College, the observer from the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons attended.

30. The Chairman reported on developments during the period under review, in particular on his recent visit to Baghdad with the advance team. He outlined the new powers of inspection that had been conferred on UNMOVIC and IAEA by the Security Council under resolution 1441 (2002), and he shared with the College his views on how the strengthened powers of the Commission could be used.

31. The College welcomed the unanimous adoption by the Security Council of resolution 1441 (2002), which provided for a strengthened inspection regime. The continued and united support of the Council for the inspection activities in Iraq was considered to be vital for the effective implementation of this and earlier resolutions concerning the disarmament of Iraq.

32. The College further welcomed the Chairman's report on his recent visit to Baghdad and his thoughts on the various ways in which the Commission would fulfil the mandate entrusted to it by the Security Council. The resumption of inspections on 27 November, well in advance of the 45-day deadline set in resolution 1441 (2002), was noted. The declaration that Iraq is required to submit in early December and the role of the Commission in its analysis were discussed. The

College also discussed the media interest in the inspection process and welcomed it. At the same time, it was felt that the media presence should not be allowed in any way to interfere with the conduct of inspections.

33. It was decided to hold the next quarterly session in New York on 24 and 25 February 2003. It was further decided to hold a one-day meeting in New York on 21 January before UNMOVIC updated the Security Council as required in paragraph 5 of resolution 1441 (2002).

34. In accordance with paragraph 5 of resolution 1284 (1999), the Commissioners were consulted on the contents of the present report.

Notes

[a] The Commission's 10 previous reports were issued as documents S/2000/516, S/2000/835, S/2000/1134, S/2001/177, S/2001/515, S/2001/833, S/2001/1126, S/2002/195, S/2002/606 and S/2002/981.

United Nations S/2002/1304

Security Council

Distr.: General
29 November 2002

Original: English

Letter dated 28 November 2002 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) concerning Liberia addressed to the President of the Security Council

On behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) concerning Liberia, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a letter dated 25 November 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations.

I would appreciate it if this letter were issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kishore **Mahbubani**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant
to resolution 1343 (2001) concerning Liberia

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Annex

Letter dated 25 November 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) concerning Liberia

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit a letter dated 22 November 2002 addressed to you as Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) from Solomon Berewa, Vice-President of the Republic of Sierra Leone.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its enclosure could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ibrahim M. **Kamara**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Enclosure

Please refer to our letter of 31 October 2002 in which the Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations informed you, inter alia, that the Government of Sierra Leone was preparing its definitive official comments on the report of the Panel of Counsel on Liberia (S/2002/1115, annex).

The Government of Sierra Leone has taken note of the report and wishes to make the following observations on those parts that relate directly to the situation in Sierra Leone, and in particular to its continuing effort to consolidate the peace and establish a measure of justice and national reconciliation.

As far as Sierra Leone is concerned, the Liberian Government has offered no credible and convincing evidence that it has taken action, including legislative action, to expel all Revolutionary United Front (RUF) members and prohibit all RUF activities on its territory, as demanded by the Security Council in paragraph 2 (a) of its resolution 1343 (2001). It will be recalled that Sierra Leone, for its part, had taken the necessary legislative action to effect the transformation of RUF into a political party, namely, the Revolutionary United Front Party (RUFP). RUFP contested the recent parliamentary and presidential elections.

The symbolic declaration of the end of the rebel war in Sierra Leone and the completion of the so-called metamorphosis of RUF into a political party now known as the RUF Party do not automatically render paragraph 2, subparagraphs (a) to (d), of resolution 1343 (2001) redundant.

A clear distinction should be made between RUFP in Sierra Leone and those armed members of RUF who refused to participate in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process — and who chose to settle outside the country, especially in Liberia. The existence of these hard-core remnants of RUF, especially in Liberia, has been and remains a matter of serious concern for the Government of Sierra Leone.

In this connection, the Government of Sierra Leone notes with deep concern the Panel's observations that:

- Reports still persist that hundreds of RUF members form the core of some of the offensive units on the side of the Government of Liberia;
- The hard-core elements of RUF had been integrated into the Anti-Terrorist Unit in Liberia, and the Unit's continued loyalty to Sam Bockarie is the latter's guarantee to continued Liberian patronage;
- RUF strength in Liberia is estimated at between 1,250 and 1,500 men, who represent the last coherent surviving structure of the armed RUF, are maintained by the Liberian Government and continue to play an important part in Liberia's military capability;
- Citizens and diplomats in Monrovia still regard the area where the Panel met Sam Bockarie's wife as an RUF stronghold and are frightened to go there.

The Panel reports that Sam Bockarie is thought not to be staying in Liberia and that his wife claims she had not seen him for at least six moths. This in no way implies that the Government of Liberia has expelled Sam Bockarie from Liberia or that he no longer has any direct links, including military and financial ones, with the

remnants of RUF presently in Liberia and with the Government Liberia. Furthermore, lack of information on his whereabouts does not imply that Sam Bockarie no longer enjoys the patronage of the Liberian Government.

In this connection, the Government of Sierra Leone notes that the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Liberia was, until recently, reluctant to allow the Panel to talk to Mrs. Bockarie. The Sierra Leone Government also notes that one of the sources of the Panel's observation is a key former member of RUF, someone who among other things, is known to have been an RUF commander of operations; a signatory, on behalf of RUF, to documents negotiated with international organizations; and a known active participant in transactions involving rough diamonds from Sierra Leone, which were used to fuel the rebel war.

On the issue of diamonds, the Panel has not made any specific comment concerning implementation of paragraph 2 (c) of resolution 1343 (2001). However, the Government of Sierra Leone believes that until the introduction of a credible certificate of origin scheme for Liberia, a scheme that is compatible with the Kimberly Process, it would be very difficult to determine whether in fact the Government of Liberia has complied with the Security Council's demand that it cease "all direct or indirect import of Sierra Leone rough diamonds which are not controlled through the Certificate of Origin regime of the Government of Sierra Leone ..."

The Government of Sierra Leone is disturbed by the findings of the Panel concerning violations of the arms embargo provisions of resolution 1343 (2001). This, together with the continued presence in Liberia of the "last coherent surviving structure of the armed RUF" fighters, should **not** under any circumstances be taken lightly.

It is relevant to draw the attention of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) that for over three years in the course of vicious rebel attacks, the Government of Sierra Leone met its obligations under Security Council resolution 1171 (1998). The Government still continues to scrupulously implement the measures imposed by the resolution relating to transparency in arms imports.

Finally, the Government of Sierra Leone recalls recent developments in the Mano River Union subregion, including the effort of President Kabbah, to facilitate confidence-building measures for peace and stability in the subregion. These developments notwithstanding, the Government of Sierra Leone strongly urges the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) and the Security Council to take the above concerns into consideration in deciding on the next step towards fulfilment of the objectives of subparagraph (a) to (d) of paragraph 2 of the resolution. As the Panel itself observes, the demands contained in those subparagraphs were intended to lead to *the consolidation of the peace process in Sierra Leone* (emphasis added) and to further progress in the peace process in the Mano River Union.

(*Signed*) Solomon E. **Berewa**
Vice-President

United Nations S/2002/1305

Security Council

Distr.: General
29 November 2002

Original: English

Letter dated 29 November 2002 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 9 October 2002 from the President of the Security Council (S/2002/1130), informing you that the Council had taken note of your intention to extend by one additional year, to 31 December 2003, the mandate of the United Nations Peace-building Support Office in Liberia (UNOL).

The Council welcomes this extension of the mandate in the difficult context of peace consolidation in Liberia.

As you are aware, the Council is in the process of elaborating a comprehensive strategy on Liberia. UNOL will have a role to play in this context.

In particular, UNOL, with the consent of the Government of Liberia, should work to enhance the implementation of the following tasks:

(a) Offering assistance to the Liberian authorities and to the public for strengthening democratic institutions and the rule of law, including the promotion of an independent press and an enabling environment for political parties to operate freely in Liberia;

(b) Contributing to and monitoring the preparation of free and fair elections in 2003, especially through the promotion of an independent electoral commission;

(c) Enhancing and monitoring respect for human rights in Liberia, including through constructive dialogue with the Government of Liberia, with particular attention to reaching out to local civil society groups and to encouraging the establishment of an independent and functional human rights commission;

(d) Promoting national reconciliation and resolution of the conflict, including through support for initiatives on the ground;

(e) Supporting the Government of Liberia in the implementation of peace agreements to be adopted;

(f) Engaging in an educational campaign to present accurately United Nations policies and activities regarding Liberia.

These changes to the mandate of UNOL should increase its capacity for objective reporting on the situation in Liberia. The Office should report on a wide range of views, including those outside the Government of Liberia (for example, opposition parties, non-State actors and civil society). The Security Council would

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be grateful if you could provide it with a report every three months, covering the following topics:

(a) The overall situation in Liberia;

(b) The preparations, conditions and readiness for free and fair elections;

(c) The human rights situation.

The Security Council would be grateful if you could submit, by 15 January 2003, recommendations for a detailed revised mandate for UNOL, incorporating these additions if you think it appropriate, for the Council's approval.

The Council also welcomes Mr. Abou Moussa's appointment as your new Representative in Liberia and head of UNOL, and looks forward to his assumption of the post to ensure that UNOL has strong leadership in place.

(*Signed*) **Wang** Yingfan
President of the Security Council

United Nations S/2002/1306

Security Council

Distr.: General
29 November 2002
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 27 November 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the daily report for 27 November 2002 on the activities of the inspection teams of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 27 November 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Daily report on the activities of the UNMOVIC and IAEA inspection teams in Iraq

Report of the activities carried out on 27 November 2002

The UNMOVIC and IAEA inspection teams commenced inspection work in Iraq on Wednesday, 27 November 2002. A summary of the inspection work performed on that date is set forth below.

1. The IAEA inspection team set out from its headquarters at the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. Consisting of 10 inspectors and headed by Mr. Jacques Baute, the team arrived at 9 a.m. at the site of the Tahadi General Company, a high-voltage electric power company owned by the Government and located on the outskirts of Baghdad.

On arrival at the site, the inspection team:

(a) Inspected all of the company facilities in order to examine the apparatus and equipment;

(b) Compared Iraq's declarations with the items present on the site;

(c) Restarted the site's air-sampling system, which had been untouched since the inspectors left Iraq on 15 December 1998;

(d) Met the Director-General of the company and asked him questions about the activity of the site, which he answered;

(e) Photographed various buildings and pieces of equipment.

The team left the inspection site at 12.05 p.m. and arrived back at the Canal Hotel headquarters at 12.15 p.m.

2. The UNMOVIC inspection team set out from its headquarters at the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.35 a.m. Consisting of 15 inspectors and headed by Mr. Demetrios Perricos, the team was divided into two groups. The first group headed for the graphite factory in Amiriyah al-Falujah, west of Baghdad, which produces graphite rods for ovens, and arrived at the site at 10.13 a.m. The second group headed for the adjacent site of Rafah, which is used for testing liquid-fuel rocket engines, and arrived at 10.30 a.m.

On arrival at the sites, the inspection team:

(a) Visually surveyed the contents of both sites;

(b) Asked questions about the activity of each site and photographed relevant documents;

(c) Closely examined the documents on liquid-fuel-engine testing;

(d) At the Rafah site, focused special attention on a new rocket-engine-testing platform which was still under construction.

The inspection team completed its on-site task at 5.10 p.m. and arrived back at the Canal Hotel headquarters at 6.30 p.m.

3. The three sites visited by the inspection teams on 27 November 2002 were among those sites alleged by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the United Kingdom and the United States of America to be conducting prohibited activities.

United Nations S/2002/1307

Security Council

Distr.: General
29 November 2002
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 27 November 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the daily report of 28 November 2002 on the activities of the inspection teams of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 27 November 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Daily report on the activities of the UNMOVIC and IAEA inspection teams in Iraq

Report of the activities carried out on 28 November 2002

The activities of the UNMOVIC and IAEA inspection teams on Thursday, 28 November 2002, were as follows:

1. The UNMOVIC inspection team set out from its headquarters at the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. Consisting of 12 inspectors and headed by Mr. Demetrios Perricos, the team arrived at 8.45 a.m. at the site of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Institute of the General Company for Veterinary Science. This Institute used to produce foot-and-mouth disease vaccines for livestock, covering the needs of Iraq and neighbouring countries. The now-dismantled United Nations Special Commission destroyed the Institute's main production facilities in 1996, as a result of which work in the Institute ground to a final halt. The site is currently closed and it is not engaged in any activity.

On arrival at the site, the inspection team carried out the following activities:

(a) Inspected all of the site facilities and took water samples from the site;

(b) Asked questions about the site, to which replies were given;

(c) Closely examined the equipment which had been subject to constant monitoring and photographed the site and its facilities;

(d) A small group from the team went to the veterinary medicines factory in Taji in order to find out whether or not any of the equipment had been taken there from the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Institute. It became evident that no equipment had been removed from its place and that the equipment was not subject to declaration or constant monitoring.

The inspection team completed its task on the site at 2.20 p.m. and arrived back at its headquarters at the Canal Hotel at 2.45 p.m.

2. The IAEA inspection team set out from its headquarters at the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. Consisting of nine inspectors and headed by Mr. Jacques Baute, it arrived at 9.10 a.m. at the sites of the Dhu al-Faqar factory, which belongs to the Rashid General Company/Military Industrialization Corporation, and the Nasr General Company for Mechanical Industries, which belongs to the Ministry of Industry. Both sites are in Taji, north of Baghdad.

On arrival, the inspection team carried out the following:

(a) Examined one of the site production facilities destroyed during the British-American aggression of 16-20 December 1998. Until its destruction and the exit of the inspectors from Iraq, the production facility in question had been under monitoring from 14 surveillance cameras;

(b) Examined the aluminium pipes on the site, which are old and damaged, having been imported in 1987;

(c) Toured all areas of both sites, closely examined the seals on the machines and equipment which had been under constant monitoring and photographed both factories.

The team completed its task at 1.20 p.m. and arrived back at its headquarters at the Canal Hotel at 2.05 p.m.

3. The Foot-and-Mouth Disease Institute and the Nasr General Company were among the sites which the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Mr. Tony Blair, in his report of September 2002, accused of being engaged in the conduct of prohibited activities.

United Nations A/57/632–S/2002/1308

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
29 November 2002

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-seventh session
Agenda items 36 and 160

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

The situation in the Middle East

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 29 November 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Yesterday marked yet another serious escalation in acts of terrorism targeting innocent civilians.

A suicide bomb attack outside the beachfront paradise Hotel in Mombasa, Kenya, frequented by Israeli tourists, claimed 16 lives and wounded 80 people. Of the dead, 13 were Kenyan nationals and 3 were Israeli citizens, including two brothers, Noy and Dvir Anter, aged 12 and 14. The huge bomb shattered windows and masonry in the hotel and caused a large fire on the premises. A previously unknown organization, "the Army of Palestine", claimed responsibility for this gruesome act of terror in a statement released from Beirut on Hezbollah television channel, but at the time of writing it remains unclear which terrorist organizations were behind the attack, though evidence suggests possible al-Qa'idah involvement.

The bombing came only minutes after an attempt to target, with two shoulder-launched missiles, an Israeli passenger plane carrying 261 passengers and 10 crew members departing from Mombasa. The missiles streaked passed the plane, narrowly missing it, thus averting what would have been a horrific catastrophe.

Also yesterday, 6 Israelis were killed and more than 40 were wounded when Palestinian gunmen from Chairman Arafat's own Fatah al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade detonated grenades and fired indiscriminately from automatic weapons at people waiting to vote at a polling station in Beit Shean, in the north of Israel. This cold-blooded murder of innocent civilians by terrorists loyal to Chairman Arafat seems not only to have been designed to escalate the ongoing Palestinian terrorist campaign but to interfere, through violence and terror, in the Israeli democratic process.

These three heinous terrorist acts, which deliberately targeted civilians, highlight the need for the international community to unite and be uncompromising in its battle against international terrorism and those rogue regimes that support,

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glorify and finance it. They emphasize the fact that terrorist groups operate as a network, and that support or toleration for the murderous agenda of any terrorist organization bolsters and empowers other organizations in the network. For the struggle against terrorism to be successful, the international community must be consistent in its condemnation of such acts as violations of the basic tenets of international law and the very sanctity of human life. The international community must hold accountable and fight against all those who engage in or support the inhuman strategy of murdering innocents in the hope of advancing a cause if we are to bring an end to this cult of glorifying death and killing around the globe.

Israel will work individually, with its allies and with the international community as a whole to ensure that its citizens are protected in accordance with its right and duty to self-defence and that the perpetrators of such atrocities and their supporters are brought to justice.

I submit this letter in follow-up to numerous letters detailing the campaign of Palestinian terrorism that began in September 2000.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 36 and 160, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yehuda **Lancry**
Permanent Representative